S/N: 09/834,141 PATENT
Docket No. RAL920000016US2

Amendments to the specification:

Amend page 19, paragraph beginning at line 18, as follows:

The present invention uses a plurality of different queues for receiving and scheduled for output based on the type of service which has been associated with a given flow of processed frames. That is, for each flow or origination of frames, a level of service type (service level agreement or SLA) has been established, often as a result of a payment for a given type and level of service. Some users wish to have an assigned minimum bandwidth while others are happy with a best efforts bandwidth. Because of differences in desirability of different types of service (and different levels of service within a type), different costs are associated with the service and some users are willing to pay a premium for a minimum bandwidth while other users are seeking a more economical service and are willing to accept a lesser service such as best efforts bandwidth or a weighted fair queuing system. The present invention associates with each with each SLA and user a queue (flow queue as discussed above) with the necessary characteristics that define the SLA and the gueue's interaction with the various calendars (eg, which calendars are used for the service, the number of calendars and the scheduling within each calendar). The basic characteristics (minimum bandwidth, best effort WFQ, best effort peak bandwidth, and maximum burst size requires a method that allows the time based calendars and the WFQ calendars to interact with a single flow queue to provide the desired SLA characteristics (i.e. minimum bandwidth with best effort peak. Other combinations are discussed in the Scheduler Structure Patent. These interactions are described below.

Amend page 21, paragraph beginning at line 18, as follows:

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If a flow queue was determined in block 1100 of Fig. 5 to be in a queue calendar, then at Fig. 6 it is determined whether the flow queue is in all of the calendars it needs to be in. If SSD.V is set to indicate that there is a minimum bandwidth component (No from block 1200) and QlnRed is set to 1 (at block 1209), then control passes to Fig. 8 where the flow is enqueued to a calendar for best effort peak service. Fig. 7 is invoked if SSD.V is 0 at block 1200 and PSD.V is not zero at block 1200a and QinBlue and QinGrn are both not set (blocks 1201 and 1202). A pointer to the WFQ at a location calculated using the Calculation Patent is added if PSD.V is zero (at block 1200a) and QD is not zero, indicating a best effort, WFQ, component (at block 1203) and QinBlue is not set (at block 204 1204).

Amend page 25, paragraph beginning at line 12, as follows:

Returning to block 528, processing continues to determine if the flow queue's peak bandwidth component is restricted by use of a maximum burst size specification (at 523) and if it is restrictive, is if there is any credit remaining to this flow queue (at 524). If there is no restriction, or if there is remaining MBSCredit, the flow queue is added to the PBS calendar at the time specified by the NextGreenTime calculation for a flow in violation as described in the Reconnection Patent (block 517). Otherwise, the flow queue is not re-attached to a calendar.